



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI 2004-144

Tuesday, October 26, 2004

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Burmaster announces \$6.8 million in charter school grants

31 grants awarded to plan new charter schools

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster today announced awards of \$6.8 million in federal charter school grants to support planning for new charter schools and schools that are in the first two years of operation.

“Wisconsin is well known for its educational innovation, and the state’s charter schools are no exception,” Burmaster said. “By producing more education options for parents and their children, Wisconsin charter schools are part of overall public education efforts to lift achievement for all students and close the gap between economically disadvantaged students, students of color, and their peers.”

In Wisconsin, a charter school is a public school that is accountable to the authorizing agency that grants its charter contract, which typically includes provisions for measurable improvement in student achievement. Charter schools must employ licensed teachers, administer statewide tests, and comply with federal regulations that govern schools.

Wisconsin received \$9.2 million in federal funding allocated for the 2004-05 fiscal year, which started Oct. 1. Over the three years of the federal charter schools grant, Wisconsin has received \$27.7 million. Additional grants will be awarded later. The deadline for dissemination grant applications from charter schools completing at least three years of successful operation is Dec. 17.

When Wisconsin enacted its initial charter school legislation in 1993, just 13 charter schools were formed. Growth in charter schools followed changes to Wisconsin’s charter school law in 1995 and 1997. The state now has 161 charter schools in operation. School districts and three chartering

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authorities—the City of Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and University of Wisconsin-Parkside—oversee the charter schools.

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ATTACHMENT: A list of charter school grants for 2004-05 follows.

NOTE: Further information about charter schools in Wisconsin is available on the Department of Public Instruction charter school website at < <http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dfm/sms/csindex.html> > or in the publication, “Wisconsin Charter Schools 2003-2004.” Copies of the charter school book are available by calling Julie Blaney, DPI, (608) 267-5880.

Charter School Grants - FY 2004-05

Planning Grants (\$10,000 each)

Appleton Area School District

Active Hands Academy
Appleton Public Montessori
Fox River Academy

Augusta School District

Augusta Science Research Charter School

City of Milwaukee

Massai Institute

Janesville School District

Janesville International Charter School

Kiel Area School District

Meeme LEADS Charter School

Kimberly Area School District

Kimberly Charter School

Lena Public School District

LEARN

Medford Area School District

Rural Virtual Academy

Menasha School District

Chance II Charter School

Milwaukee Public Schools

Alliance High School of Milwaukee
Aurora Weier Bilingual Early College High School
City Prep Charter School
Lightstreams Education Center
Milwaukee Academy of Aviation, Science & Technology
Milwaukee Learning Laboratory and Institute
Milwaukee Urban Preparatory School
New Concept Self Development Center
Nzingha Institute for Creative Learning & Living
WEB Du Bois Metropolitan High School

Osceola School District

Osceola's Charter Preschool

Phillips School District

Northern Outreach Academy

Shorewood School District

New Horizons for Learning

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Career Education Academy
Inland Seas School of Expeditionary Learning

Wausau School District

Wausau Montessori Charter School
Alternative Charter School

Wausaukee School District

Wausaukee Rural Charter Academy

Wautoma Area School District

Wautoma Charter School

Wisconsin Rapids School District

Central Cities Health Institute

Initial Implementation Grants (\$150,000 each)

Appleton Area School District

Dan Spalding Academy Charter School

Argyle School District

Argyle Land Ethic Academy (ALEA)

Blair-Taylor School District

School of Science, Engineering & Technology

Clinton Community School District

LIFT Charter School

Grantsburg School District

Grantsburg Virtual School

Kohler School District

Northeast Wisconsin Online Charter School

Madison Metropolitan School District

Nuestro Mundo Community School

Milwaukee Public Schools

Academy of Language and Fine Arts
Advanced Language and Academic Studies
CITIES Project High School
Community High School
Community Trade and Business Center
Genesis High School
Hmong American Peace Academy
Humboldt Park School
Milwaukee School of Entrepreneurship
School of Humanities
Truth Institute for Leadership and Service

Mukwonago Area School District

Eagleview Elementary Charter School

Neenah School District

Alliance Charter Elementary

Oshkosh Area School District

ALPS Accelerated Alternative Learning Program
Journey's School

Rhineland School District

Northwood's Community Elementary School
Northwood's Community Secondary School

Sparta Area School District

SAILS
Sparta Montessori Charter School

Stevens Point Area School District

Jefferson School for the Arts
Roosevelt IDEA School
Washington Service Learning Center

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Capitol West Academy
Woodlands School

Waukesha School District

Waukesha Academy of Health Professions

Implementation Renewal Grants (\$150,000 each)

Appleton Area School District

Valley New School

Argyle School District

Lafayette County Community Charter School

City of Milwaukee

Academy of Learning and Leadership

Flambeau School District

Flambeau Charter School

Greendale School District

Time 4 Learning Charter School

Milwaukee Public Schools

Carter Charter School of Excellence
La Causa Charter School
New Hope Institute of Science and Technology
Professional Learning Institute

Monroe School District

Monroe Independent Education Charter School

Oshkosh Area School District

OASD Environmental Education Charter School